(c) the details of the U.S. sanctions still pending?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) The United States has lifted a number of unilateral restrictions it had imposed on India after the nuclear tests in May 1998.

(b) The US has lifted restrictions on assistance from the US EXIM Bank, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPEC) and the US Trade and Development Agency (TDA); on International Military Education and Training Programme; on the lending by U.S. banks to the Government of India; on credit and financial assistance by Department of Agriculture to support the purchase of food; and, certain assistance programmes under the U.S. Foreign Assistance Act 1961.

(c) The United States Government continues to maintain restrictions on U.S. support for loans by international financial institutions to India, except for humanitarian purposes; on sales of Defence Articles, Defence Services or Design and Construction Services under Arms Export Control Act as also military financing under this Act; on export of any item on the United States Munition List; and, on export of certain goods and technology on the Commodity Control List of the U.S. Export Administration Rules (EAR), commonly described as "dual use" goods and technology.

In addition, a specific group of Indian Government organisations, defence establishments, research institutions, public sector units and private companies, and their subsidiary bodies, which the United States considers to be involved in the Indian nuclear and missile programmes, face tighter restrictions on import of dual use items from the United States. There are currently over 150 such units on the so-called Entity List of the United States.

Agreement with France

3417. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of his visit to France during this year;

(b) the agreements signed; and

(c) the assistance likely to be received from them?

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) External Affairs Minister has not made any official visit to France during this year.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Extradition Treaties

3418. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the countries with whom India has signed extradition treaties, so far; and

(b) to countries with whom the extradition treaties are likely to be signed during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) India has signed extradition treaties with 16 countries (Belgium, Bhutan, Canada, Germany, Hong Kong, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, Russian Federation, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States of America and Uzbekistan).

(b) Extradition treaties with Germany and Turkey have been signed during the current financial year. The texts of the extradition treaties with Philippines, Poland and Spain have been initialled at the official level, but the treaties can be signed only after the Contracting States in each case complete the requisite process of obtaining internal approvals.

Missing of Bengali Chef from British Ship

3419.SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Indian chef, 27, falls of QE 2, search abandoned" which appeared in 'The Asian Age' dated the 25th July, 2001 (Kolkata Edition) and news-item captioned "Bengali chef missing from British ship" appearing in the Times of India dated the 28th July, 2001 (Kolkata Edition),

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;